

Panel on Commerce and Industry

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 17 June 2011)

Proposed timing
for discussion

1. Progress report on the Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme

The Administration will brief members on the progress in the implementation of the Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme.

19 July 2011

2. Legislative Amendments on Rules of Origin for Agreements of Trade Liberalization

The Administration will brief members on proposed amendments to the Trade Descriptions Ordinance. The amendments seek to expand the eligibility criteria for determining the place of origin under the said Ordinance for goods enjoying preferential tariff treatment. This is to make room, in our law, to accommodate the more flexible rules of origin in agreements of trade liberalization that Hong Kong will soon or may conclude in future.

19 July 2011

3. Economic and trade co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan

The Administration will update members on the latest development of economic and trade co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan, in particular the progress made in the areas of trade, investment and tourism.

To be confirmed

4. Progress of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda Negotiations

The Administration will update members on the latest round of multilateral trade negotiations under the World Trade Organization, as and when there are significant developments.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

5. Progress on further liberalization under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest development of the economic and trade co-operation and exchanges between the HKSAR Government and the Central People's Government under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement.

To be confirmed

6. Development of the exhibition industry in Hong Kong

At the Panel meeting on 21 December 2010, the Panel discussed the development of the exhibition industry in Hong Kong, in particular the promotion of the Meetings, Incentive travels, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) industry, measures to encourage the utilization of the existing convention and exhibition facilities, as well as the Hong Kong Trade Development Council's assistance for local small and medium enterprises and new exhibitors. Members urged the Administration to provide a more level playing field for AsiaWorld-Expo to compete with the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on an equal footing, and help sort out their differences which posed barriers to co-operation. The Administration will update the Panel on the latest development of the exhibition industry in Hong Kong. Stakeholders will be invited to present their views on the issue.

End 2011